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The Bodies In The Bag

St Leonard's-on-Sea,
Mar. 16.

The police here are only half-heartedly looking for a man who must be the most embarrassed purse snatcher in the world to-day.

Sighting a young woman leaving a local bank with a purse under her arm, the culprit leaped from an automobile, snatched the bag and sped off.

The loot—three dead kittens, which were to be dropped into the nearby sea.—United Press.

Marshall Says 'No'

Informal Talks On China Rejected

Moscow, Mar. 17.
Secretary of State George C. Marshall rejected on Sunday night a Russian request for informal discussion on China as the Foreign Ministers Council prepared for a week of discussions on German reparations and economic which many observers said held the key to the success or failure of the four power meeting.

Mr. Marshall offered to exchange with the Russian and British Foreign Ministers information about the Chinese situation.

British informants said British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin was expected to reply to Mr. Molotov in the same manner as Mr. Marshall.

TEXT OF LETTER

The American delegation made public Mr. Marshall's letter replying to Mr. Molotov's request for the China conference.

The text follows:
"Dear Mr. Molotov: I have your letter of March 11 relating to the matter of the execution of provisions of the Moscow Protocol of December 1945 with reference to China.

"When this question was raised by you in the Council of Foreign Ministers I stated I would be pleased to exchange with you and Mr. Bevin while I am in Moscow, but not in the Council of Foreign Ministers, information concerning the execution of the revision of the Moscow declaration regarding China.

"This I will do but I do not think it desirable to engage in any conference, however informal, before April 1 and that each of us make available a copy of the information furnished to the Chinese Government.

"Please accept, Mr. Foreign Minister, assurances of my highest esteem."—Associated Press.

EDITORIAL

New Political Drama

SPEAKING with Rooseveltian bluntness, President Truman last week served notice on Russia that the United States was willing to go to almost any lengths to prevent Communism from dominating Europe. Secretary of State Marshall seconded the motion 24 hours later with a diplomatic declaration before the Foreign Ministers' Council in Moscow about America's ideas as to what constituted democracy. Plainly directed at Mr. Molotov, it read like a schoolmaster's admonition to a pupil who had not quite played the game. A day later, the British parliament aligned itself with Mr. Truman's new policy by voting a £19,000,000 grant to Greece to help the country withstand its obnoxious communist elements. All this was accomplished without a single direct reference either to Russia as an influence, or communism as a political force. It has been left to the American Taft to discard the cloak of diplomatic phraseology and to tell the world exactly what President Truman and Mr. Marshall meant by their speeches. Senator Taft has told Russia that if she persists in her "democratic" programme, which is taking the form of injecting the malign virus of communism into countries too weak to resist, it may well mean war with the United States. The first practical move to counter Soviet foreign policy is to make available \$400,000,000 to Greece and Turkey for the purpose of

strengthening their economic and military resistance; the second will be to insist on an American system for the democratisation of Germany.

Russia, always keenly sensitive to the veiled hostility of the western democracies, immediately dubbed the American aid to Greece and Turkey as a shameful exploitation of American capitalism, arguing with a certain degree of logic, because it is that of an actor who was formerly the star, and is now sympathetically watching his successor from the wings. France will view the development of the drama with mixed feelings. With Communists holding the political balance of power she will hesitate to align herself with any move calculated to antagonise the Soviets. She is solely concerned with seeing that never again shall there be a menacing Germany; the United States and Britain feel that Germany will only become a menace if Soviet influence is permitted to dominate. It is plain that powerful ideological forces are confronting each other, and it will require high statesmanship and a conciliatory spirit on both sides if the peace of the world is to be saved.

MARTIAL LAW IN PALESTINE CALLED OFF

Gale Hits Southern England

FLOODS INCREASE

London, Mar. 16.
Sweeping over the Atlantic, a south-west gale with gusts of hurricane force struck the south-west and south coasts of England to-night.

Trees were uprooted, roofs were stripped of slates and tiles and fences and boardings flattened as gusts of more than 110 kilometres an hour hit towns and villages. The danger from rivers in flood intensified as the wind whipped the swirling waters and below Windsor the Thames burst its banks at Datchet.

Water poured through the breach and many families were rendered homeless.

The river is two metres above normal at Windsor, where the worst floods since 1894 are being experienced.

Meanwhile, rapidly rising floods and threat of further torrential rain marked the first day of "Summer Time" in Britain to-day.

Across great stretches of inundated country men, women and children fled to upper rooms of their homes to escape swirling waters, or evacuated altogether as walls, or even whole houses, collapsed.

In some places, such as Bedford, where waters have subsided house-holders spent Sunday morning digging mud from their living rooms.

Two of the worst flooded areas to-day were the Thames Valley and the fenland of Norfolk and the Isle of Ely.

HOUSEHOLDERS MAROONED
In London, where the afternoon temperature reached 56 degrees—the highest for two months—the national fire service, formed to combat Hitler's fire raids on the capital, to-day rescued marooned householders and pumped water from flooded basements.

In the Ely, where flooding of fitter beds disrupted water supply that millions of Londoners relied on, emergency supplies were brought in from outside. The Water Board appealed for a great fleet of 700 water tankers with capacity of 40,000 gallons, and the first 400 of these are expected to be concentrated in London by to-night.

The Thames Conservatory Board said to-day that the river floods in many places were equal to or worse than the great floods of 1929, and the river still rising.

In the low-lying fen country the already critical situation is made worse because tugs and barges carrying clay to stop breaches in the banks cannot get under the bridges.—Reuter.

Swing From Labour

Perth, Mar. 16.
The Government of Western Australia, which has been in office for 11 years, was facing defeat to-day as the results of yesterday's general elections came in.

The figures so far show a sharp swing away from Labour with a probable loss of seven seats and a gain of one. As Labour previously held 29 seats out of 59 this net loss of six seats would destroy their majority.

The surprising feature of the results was the Government's failure in two metropolitan constituencies which had been Labour strongholds for many years.

The two opposition parties, the Country Democratic League and the Liberal Party, went to the polls on a common programme.

The Liberal Party successes so far indicate a likelihood of its leader, Mr. Ross McLarty, becoming Premier in the coalition government.—Reuter.

CUSTODY OF PACIFIC IS.

U.S. "Thumbs Down" To Amendments

Lake Success, Mar. 16.
An official spokesman said to-day that American officials will reject three British and Australian amendments tomorrow when the United Nations Security Council resumes debate on the American plan for exclusive United States trusteeship over Japanese-mandated islands.

The United States has prepared also to reject any last minute amendments submitted by New Zealand, India, the Philippines or the Netherlands.

The three countries probably will get temporary seats in the Council to-morrow to comment on trusteeship agreements. Confident of final approval, the American delegate, Mr. Warren Austin, was depicted as impatient at efforts by Britain and her dominions to delay final action on the plan.

EXPECTS APPROVAL
He was said to be hoping for approval before the end of the week. Australia and Britain have proposed specific changes in the terms by which the United States plan to maintain sole custody of 623 islands making up the battle famous Marianas, Carolines and Marshalls.

New Zealand turned up at the last minute with demands that all states which fought the Pacific war be permitted to speak their piece in the Council before it gives inevitable approval to the American plan.

India and the Philippines indicated that they would take advantage of the invitation wangled by New Zealand. They must appear at to-morrow afternoon's meeting to get a hearing. None of the objections voiced by the British, Australians and New Zealanders were deep enough to prevent final approval of the trusteeship agreement.

Russia, once considered to be the only threat to approval, has enthusiastically endorsed American control of the strategic islands.

"OPEN DOOR" POLICY
One British amendment would require complete "open door" economic policy in the islands, striking out a provision which gives the United States economic preference.

American officials, however, will reject the British proposal on the grounds that it would limit United States power to close off strategic parts of the area to all foreigners.

The strategic part of the trusteeship agreement gives the United States authority to build the islands into secret naval and military bastions for use in this country's national security system as well as in the United Nations' still to be achieved system of collective security.

The second British proposal would stipulate that the United States must notify the Council before it closes part of the area to outsiders. American officials will contend that they already are bound to do so and turn down the British amendment.—United Press.

Authorities Finish Immediate Task

Jerusalem, Mar. 16.
In a special communique announcing the withdrawal of the statutory martial law imposed in Palestine two weeks ago from 12 noon to-morrow, the Palestine Government states: "The Army and the Police have completed their immediate task."

The communique points out that statutory martial law can and will be applied again if necessary.

The communique stated that martial law was imposed as a result of a series of outrages with the object of carrying out action by the security forces directed against the Jewish dissident groups. "It had no other political purpose."

The communique added that an appreciable number of former members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Gang have been apprehended by the Army and the police since the martial law was clamped down. It is not desired to extend indefinitely the loss of employment and dislocation in the economic situation of the two hostilities. For these reasons the martial law is being lifted and the opportunity given to the community to intensify and not diminish their co-operation which is essential to a country free from terrorist activity which has been so widely condemned by all responsible bodies and people.—Reuter.

CO-OPERATION

London, Mar. 16.
An official spokesman said to-day that martial law was being withdrawn in the Tel-Aviv and Mea Shearim sector of Jerusalem "due partially to evidence of the Jewish community's willingness to co-operate against terrorists," the Exchange Telegraph reported from Jerusalem to-day.

The martial law order has been in effect for 13 days. The British communique announcing the end of restrictions warned re-imposition or a "similar process" at any time or place if necessary. However, this provision was not taken seriously by either the Jews or the Arabs.

In the words of Emile Ghoury, Palestine Arab Higher Committee member: "The Jews once again get away with it."

Moderate Jews interpreted the lifting of the ban as proof that they had been right in counselling the British against such a move in the first place. Both Jews and Arabs doubted the British claims for the success of the curfew.—United Press.

TYPICAL GESTURE

Jerusalem, Mar. 16.
Announcing that the Jewish Agency Executive had "learned with pleasure" of to-morrow's cancellation of martial law in Palestine, an Agency spokesman said: "One thing we have learned in our dealings with the British is that when they make a mistake they are always ready to go back before it is too late."

The Irgun Zvai Leumi, the Jewish terrorist organisation, claimed over its secret radio the "victory of the Fighting Zion" to-night that none of its members was among the 78 people arrested during the period of martial law in Palestine, though British authorities stated that 12 of the 78 belonged to the Irgun and 15 to the Stern Gang.

The radio said: "The martial law has failed. This was a punitive measure to starve the people and create informers. We have had no losses in the operations between March 7 and 14."

Mr. W. C. Cuff, President of the Football League, said after the meeting: "The decision to extend the season will safeguard the competitive element of the game and at the same time meet the wishes of the Government."—Reuter.

U.S. Loan To Russia Thought Possible

London, Mar. 16.
The British press speculated to-day that the United States next may offer a big loan to Russia, sponsor alliances between Turkey, Greece and Italy, and offer a US\$500,000,000 loan to Korea.

Soccer Until June 14

SEASON EXTENDED

London, Mar. 16.
A joint meeting of the Football Association and Football League officials in London to-day decided on extension of the English football season to June 14 to enable the completion of League and Cup competitions.

To-day's decision must be ratified by the Football Association Council at its next meeting on April 11, but no opposition is expected. In accordance with Government wishes no mid-week matches will be permitted except on statutory holidays within that period.

The international and inter-league programme are to be carried through as arranged, except that the match between England and France will be played at Highbury on Saturday, May 3, instead of Wednesday, May 7.

Players' contracts will be renewed on the playing season scale throughout the extension. Next season's arrangements have yet to be discussed, though officials who attended the Home Office conference a few days ago pointed out that the season may continue next winter, and plan would be made accordingly.

Mr. W. C. Cuff, President of the Football League, said after the meeting: "The decision to extend the season will safeguard the competitive element of the game and at the same time meet the wishes of the Government."—Reuter.

Aid To Greece Described As "Filling A Vacuum"

Washington, March 16.

The former Under-secretary of State, Sumner Welles, to-day endorsed President Truman's proposal to grant \$400,000,000 aid to Turkey and Greece as the "surest means of preventing war and ensuring peace."

He said obviously either the United States or Russia must fill the "vacuum created by Britain's inability any longer to assume her traditional responsibility in the Near East."

He said Russia will fill the vacuum "unless the United States takes effective steps to check all further attempts on the part of the Soviet Union and impose her jurisdiction over the weaker peoples who desire to preserve their democratic independence."

Welles said that from a practical standpoint the United Nations is powerless to help Greece principally because Russia and the Western governments could not reach an agreement within the Security Council on the course to be pursued.

He said the United Nations is still able to operate only in a "rudimentary way" and that "during the earlier years of its existence it can never function successfully unless the great powers are able to agree upon basic policies of the issue."—United Press.

Political Tussle Over Dead Body

Funeral Postponed

Shanghai, Mar. 16.

Kuomintang organisations and leftist public bodies are to-day engaged in a frantic struggle for possession of a corpse.

Each side wants a hand in his funeral, to make him a "martyr" for its cause. While the struggle goes on, the funeral procession has been postponed indefinitely.

The deceased was Liang Jen-to, an obscure employee of a large Chinese department store. He was killed on February 9 during a serious clash that broke a meeting called to sponsor an anti-American demonstration urging a boycott of American goods.

The leftists, calling the case the "February 9 Tragic Incident," charged that Kuomintang secret police broke up the meeting by attacking the audience, and that Liang was one of the "Chinese Gestapo's" victims.

COUNTER-CHARGE

The Kuomintang, however, charged that the leftists—notably the Democratic League members whom they refer to as the "tails of the Chinese Communists"—called the meeting under the pretext of sponsoring a movement to encourage the consumption of native goods. They alleged that when the speakers advocated an anti-American boycott and started attacking the American policy in China, a major portion of the audience realised they were being misled into a political gathering. When the group tried to withdraw, a clash developed, killing Liang.

"Liang is a victim of those ambitious politicians who try to blindfold the public and lead them to Communism for their own aggrandizement," Kuomintang organisations claimed.

STEAL A MARCH

While the Kuomintang authorities and Shanghai's city government were threatening criminal charges against those who called the meeting "under false pretences thus disturbing the social order," the leftists stole a march and gained control of the funeral arrangements.

The leftists started a fund campaign in their newspapers for their "martyr." At the same time, they arranged for a large funeral procession in which "thousands" were to have attended. The procession was to have been anything but solemn as those in the parade were to have shouted slogans and carried banners denouncing the Kuomintang, its "secret police" and its "masters" the Americans.

However, the police stepped in and, all of a sudden, the funeral containing Liang's remains was spirited away to an unannounced destination. According to pro-Kuomintang newspaper accounts, this was done by the group tried to "steal a march" on the funeral.

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Now the Kuomintang authorities in Shanghai are arranging for Liang's funeral. No date has yet been set for the occasion. It is said that the authorities are still discussing whether the funeral shall be a communal affair held under police protection or just a quiet family affair attended by high city officials—or their representatives.

Meanwhile, the leftists have not completely "disowned" Liang. Their fund campaign is continuing. And the Kuomintang authorities are prepared to raise a dollar for a dollar to match the leftists in their contribution to a pension for the "martyr's" widow.—United Press.

Many Casualties In Punjab Disorder

New Delhi, March 16.
Troops opened fire to-day to disperse a crowd preparing to attack the village of Adhwa, in the hilly Attock district of north-west Punjab. It was officially announced in North-west Frontier Province by the Indus river. Casualties were heavy.

The trouble was mainly confined to the Attock district. A Pindi Gheb, 30 miles south-west of Rawalpindi, and the area along the railway.

Heavy casualties from another village, Nullah, have been reported. Fifty houses were burnt. Houses and shops were looted at Ochil and Talwal villages in the area. All Hindus have been evacuated from Jand, near Campbellpur, Baslam and villages in the neighbourhood.

All trouble in the Durdial area in the Jhelum district of the North-west Frontier has ceased, the announcement said.

Rawalpindi itself is back to normal. Lahore, capital of Punjab, continuing peaceful, though curfew is maintained. There have been no fresh incidents in the Multan district.

Clashes in Punjab between Hindus, Moslems and Sikhs have resulted in 1,036 killed, an official announcement said.

In Bonares (United Provinces), where communal disturbances started on Thursday, four people were stabbed to-day and casualties totalled 41. It was officially announced that 607 people have been arrested.

Mahatma Gandhi, who spent three months in riot-torn districts of Bengal, is now studying the situation in Bihar, scene of bitter communal rioting last November. He met the Governor, Sir Hugh Dow, last night.

The Bihar Government has arranged to drop copies of the Government newspaper "Bihar Samachar" containing Gandhi's speeches at prayer meetings, pledged for unity between Hindus and Moslems, by aeroplane over the districts affected.—Reuter.

SHOWING
TO-DAY

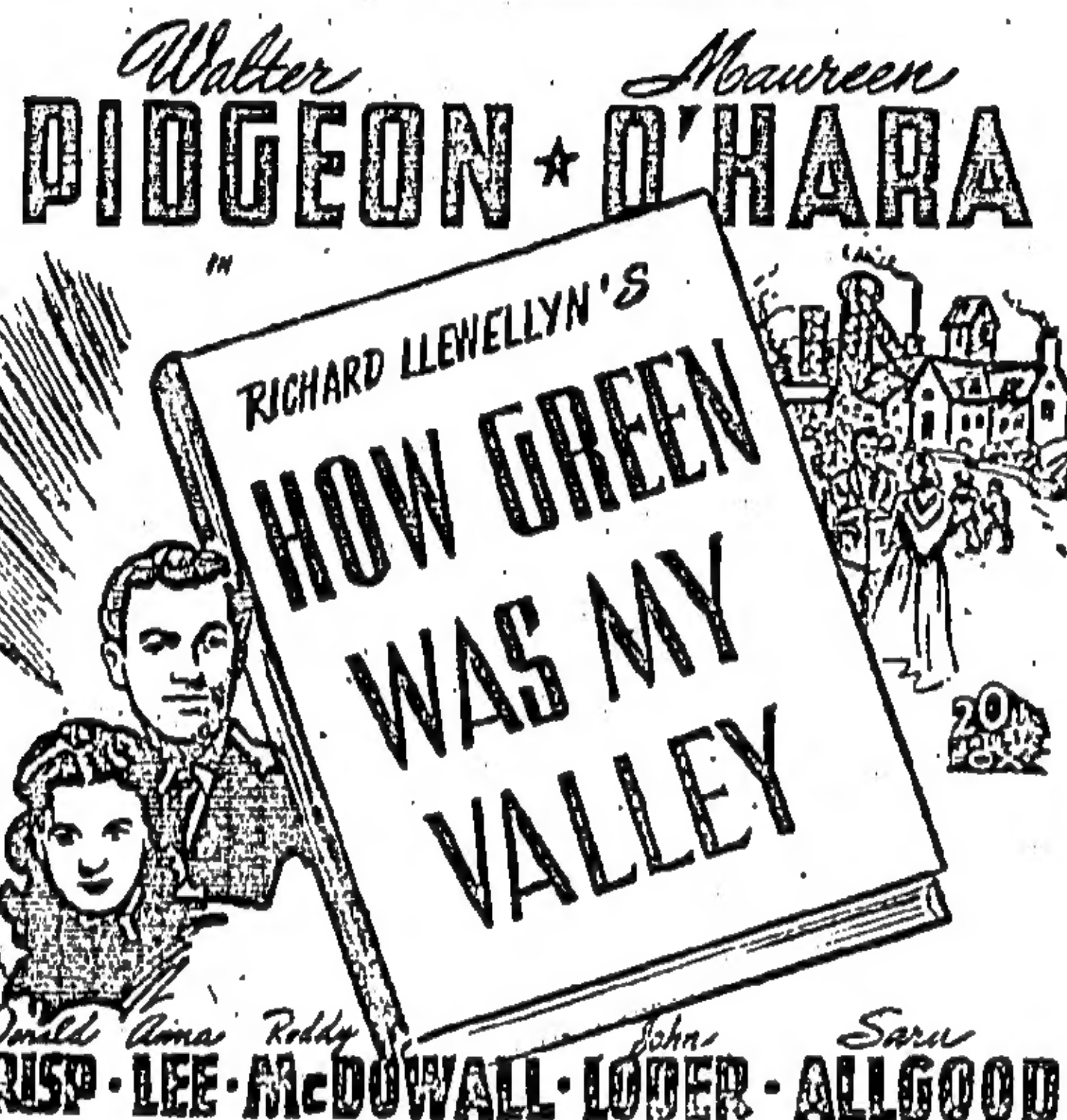
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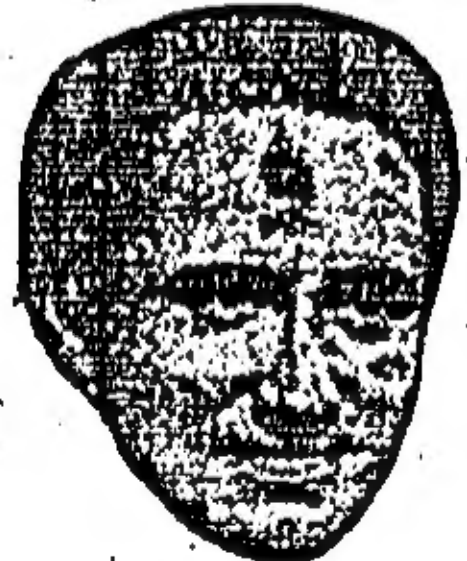
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British War Secrets Revealed By German Admiral

A GERMAN Admiral, writing of Britain's war strategy in the Mediterranean as seen from his side of the fence, has just published some intensely interesting revelations. He says:

We failed to capture Tobruk in a daring raid in September 1942 because we selected the wrong point for our initial attack.

Our naval strategy and tactics in the Mediterranean saved the British Empire; and

The German High Command made a fatal error in holding on too long at Alamein.

HE is Vice-Admiral Weichold, one of Germany's most capable efficient naval officers, who was Chief Naval Liaison Officer in Rome when Italy entered the war, and then became Flag Officer commanding the German Navy in Italy until March 1943, when his unpopularity with Doenitz and the Nazi leaders relegated him to a training job in Germany.

He says that the daring operation on Tobruk was well planned and all details were carefully worked out. Its purpose was to disorganise the land supply lines and to make the two main supply ports of Cyrenaica—Benghazi and Tobruk—unusable by destroying the harbour and oil installations. At that time, the Eighth Army and the Afrika Korps were facing each other at Alamein, and the Germans were already having increasing supply difficulties. "The plan did not succeed," he adds, "because the landing of the main unit was made at the

wrong spot. Because of this, the northern assault could not start the attack in correct timing with the southern group, and it was intercepted by troops stationed outside the town. Owing to this weakening of the assault force, the Italo-German garrison of Tobruk was able to throw the full force of their arms against the southern unit, which had ad-

BY PETER LOVEGROVE

vanced through the desert, and wiped them out before they reached the precincts of the harbour.

"The success of this operation hung on a hair. It was very fortunate that the British operation miscarried. The irreparable damaging of the main supply ports would have had very serious disadvantages. It also showed the vulnerability of the long and supply route, which could not be defended at all on the desert side. A serious danger always existed on this flank because of British experience and equipment for desert warfare. It made security measures necessary which cost troops, vehicles and fuel."

CONTROL of the Mediterranean was the deciding factor in World War II, and Britain maintained that control by her effective use of sea and air power, says Weichold.

"As opposed to the far-reaching defensive policy of the Italians," he states, "British eagerness for action showed its self in strategy and tactics. In spite of the great dangers to the

mother country in the shape of a threatening German invasion, the British leaders had the courage to allot as many forces to the Mediterranean as could be carried on active operations.

"The strategic skill of the British admirals was equal to their tactical ability. But more than anything else the excellent co-operation between the three

Services should be stressed. The great successes arising therefrom saved the British Empire and proved to the world that British power was unbroken."

DESPITE the lessons of the first World War, and lacking a naval tradition, the German High Command remained Continental-minded and did not appreciate the use of sea power.

At first, despite repeated protests and warnings by Weichold, they paid scant attention to the Mediterranean theatre, but even when they did realise its importance, they still failed to understand that it could only be won by control of the sea.

Land and air units were despatched to bolster up the Italian war effort. But—in spite of all the successes of the German Air Force, the British Navy still continued to control the sea, through the presence of British battleships and aircraft carriers. "Just as, 150 years before, it was only a few ships of the line that secured Britain against Napoleon's overwhelming power

on the Continent, and just as the British blockade at sea, during 1914-18, depended solely on the battleships of the Great Fleet at Scapa Flow and became a decisive factor against the victorious German land armies, so again in this second world war, the mastery of the sea, and all that depended on this, lay in the hands of these British warships and aircraft carriers."

In due course, U-boats and E-boats were sent into the Mediterranean, and brought British seapower to a low ebb, while Rommel made his spectacular advance in the summer of 1942.

Weichold comments:—"The British reply was the same as in earlier periods—to start an offensive in another sphere. Because he was unable to carry out an offensive at sea, on account of irreplaceable losses of heavy ships, she did as in 1941, and transferred the weight of her attack in the central Mediterranean to the air," and the resultant damage caused a serious weakening of seaborne supplies from Italy.

OF the earlier fighting around El Alamein, he says:—"And the tenacity and resistance the British could muster were concentrated in this last position, not only materially but psychologically. Therefore the power of resistance of the defeated British Army was built up, not with signs of fatigue or panic, but with increased keenness and determination."

Since the High Command would not send reinforcements in ships and fuel, Weichold, realising the weakness of Rommel's position, made great efforts to get his leaders to withdraw from Alamein. But his warnings were completely ignored. The views of Rommel, flushed with success, prevailed with the Supreme Command who, in Weichold's words, "in sight of a probable victory, became fatefully blind and threw all lessons of the past away. There was only one condition for the carrying through of the decisive operation of the Axis: consideration of the fact that no African operation can succeed if solid foundations are not created by the position at sea. As it was, it needed only the necessary preparations and a thrust on the part of the enemy to tip the scales once and for all against the Axis."

Theirs Not To Reason Why, Theirs But To Do Or Die

By JOHN RODERICK

CHINA'S bleak outlook for the next six months is one of continuing bloody struggle between the Kuomintang and Communist parties for domination of the nation.

All pretence of willingness to negotiate for a peaceful resolution of ideological conflicts between the two parties is fast disappearing.

Both Yenan and Nanking still pay lip service to peace, but the obvious preparations for heightened conflict out-talk any amount of propaganda.

Military men on both sides with whom Associated Press reporters have talked do not conceal their optimism over the ultimate military decision.

To both sides, a military test of arms is the logical next step following American withdrawal from China mediation. The party power struggle here has proceeded along a pattern of negotiation—conflict—negotiation ever since V-J Day. It is a peculiarly Chinese custom to fight, then talk. Warfare never closes the door to future arbitration. Unconditional surrender and all-out war are phrases borrowed from the West but never really put into practice.

CHIEF PAWN

Secretary of State George C. Marshall's parting China statement which placed the blame for the present turmoil on extremists of both sides remains true to-day.

Right-wing groups in the Kuomintang, aligned with the leading militarists, wish to crush Communism entirely. Their great weakness lies in their inability to defeat Yenan morally as well as militarily. Having regained areas formerly held by the Communists, they restore the status quo, increasing taxes and reinstating landlordism with its attendant evils of usury and high rents.

The peasantry resent even further the added burdens of military occupation. On the Communist side, there is a disposition to refrain from compromise in the belief that the Kuomintang, its base weakened by the economic crisis, will topple. The

present national confusion only strengthens the Red Central Committee in its conviction that it will emerge victorious. Attrition of government armies has bolstered this feeling.

The chief pawns in this costly chess game are the peasants, the middle class intelligentsia and white-collar workers.

Poverty, national humiliation, and despair are the shares they collect from this bloody gamble.

Both parties constantly assert they are the chief supporters of democracy in this struggle. This word has become in China one of the most misused in the English language.

PARTY FIGHT

Neither the Kuomintang nor the Communist party has a mandate from the people to wage war. There is no popularly elected congress in Nationalist China which decides this life-and-death matter. The millions now suffering can afford to be outspoken only at the risk of arrest.

The Communists, it is true, have regional and local governments, named in quasi-democratic elections. But these governments have no voice in the all-powerful Central Committee of the party, which, in the final analysis, says whether there shall be war or peace.

The China war is strictly a party fight, decided upon in the Central Committee of both groups, never confirmed by the people at large. Its cost to the nation is becoming almost prohibitive. Even the Kuomintang CO Ciliuq newspaper, Shih Shieh Jih Pao, recognizes the futility of further bloodshed.

"If this situation is to develop further," it editorialises, "the day will come when both the Kuomintang and the Communists will be tried by the armed forces of the people."

It foresees the possibility of popular revolt. "It is the last over-loaded hair that will crush the camel," it says, "The burden shouldered by the people to-day has already been aggravated to the extreme, whereby

an additional hair will mean death to them. Therefore if these over-loaded camels are forced to bear the last hair of burden, they will certainly revolt, no matter whether it is the Kuomintang or the Communists who are masters."

The Chinese press generally agrees that unless the civil war is stopped, inflation and economic uncertainty will grow rather than decline, despite recent government moves to stave off such an eventuality.

Mounting public opposition to civil war is an interesting commentary on the changes a year has made. In December, 1945, Kuomintang students were killed for saying in a campus demonstration what newspapers and the public generally today are making known daily.—Associated Press.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

MY note about a tendentious leader in the Daily Night-shirt has stirred up criticism in Abernanner.

A native tells me that there is little resemblance between the barbed robes of the Druids at the Elstedford and the common or garden city night-shirt, and that in 1934 a prominent bard won an action for libel against the Daily Night-shirt, which had called him "A pompous fool in a dreary night-gown." Be that as it may, and I hope it may be as it will, when Evans the Hearse pushed the pen up Snowden with his nose, "using alternate nostrils for purposes of propulsion" (White-paper 63271, u. 64), the Daily Night-shirt pointed out that "to attempt the feat in cumbersome night attire would have been to court shameful failure."

Butcher sells towel-horse as lamb

MR. JUSTICE COCKLECARROT administered a stern rebuke to a woman who was charged, with stealing three large girders from a partially built fishworks. The woman, Dora Smoke, pleaded that she needed the steel for corsets.

"How many pairs?" asked Cocklecarrot. "Three hundred gross," replied Miss Smoke. "If everybody did this," said Cocklecarrot, "there would be no steel left for industrial purposes." "Maybe not," retorted the defendant, "but women would get proper corsets." "What about whalebone?" queried Cocklecarrot. "You can't build houses or factories with whalebone," said Miss Smoke. There followed a silence filled with frustration.

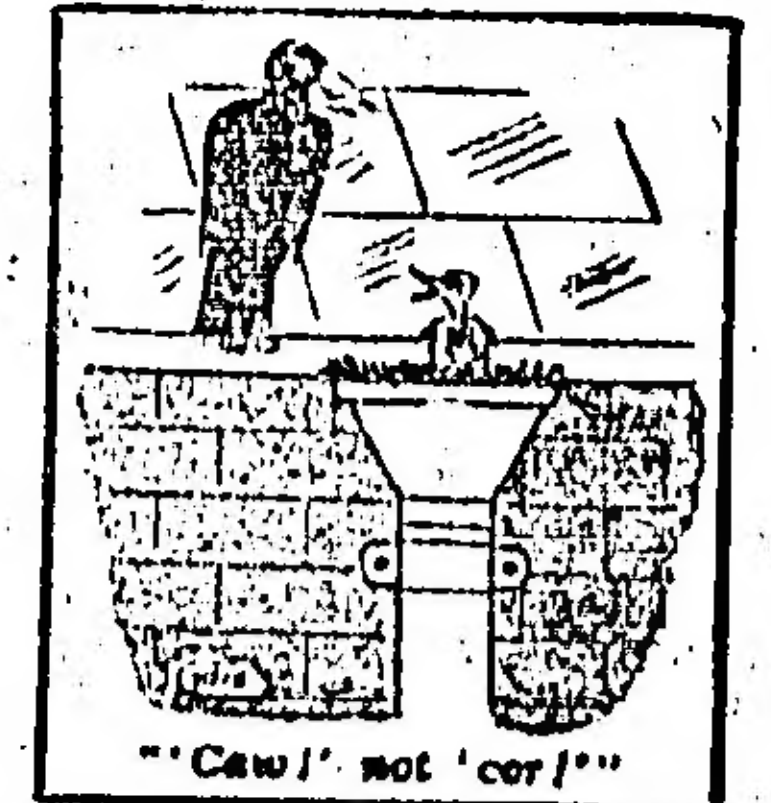
Oh, I say, look here!

I HAVE often told the story of the bishop whose right leg went to sleep at a dinner, and who absent-mindedly pinched the left leg of the lady next to him. The other day it happened again, and the lady, a spirited, raspy, pinched back, "What is it?" cried the bishop. "I thought my leg might be asleep," answered the lady archly.

Marginal note

IN case the "housewife" might be growing sceptical of the benefits she was promised from atomic energy, in case she might begin to feel that atomic energy was going to be applied to bombs instead of to sinks and refrigerators, she is now being told about atomic submarines.

POCKET CARTOON



According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

A close study of to-day's deal should bring great comfort to those players who have always considered squeeze plays "over their heads." East, dealer.

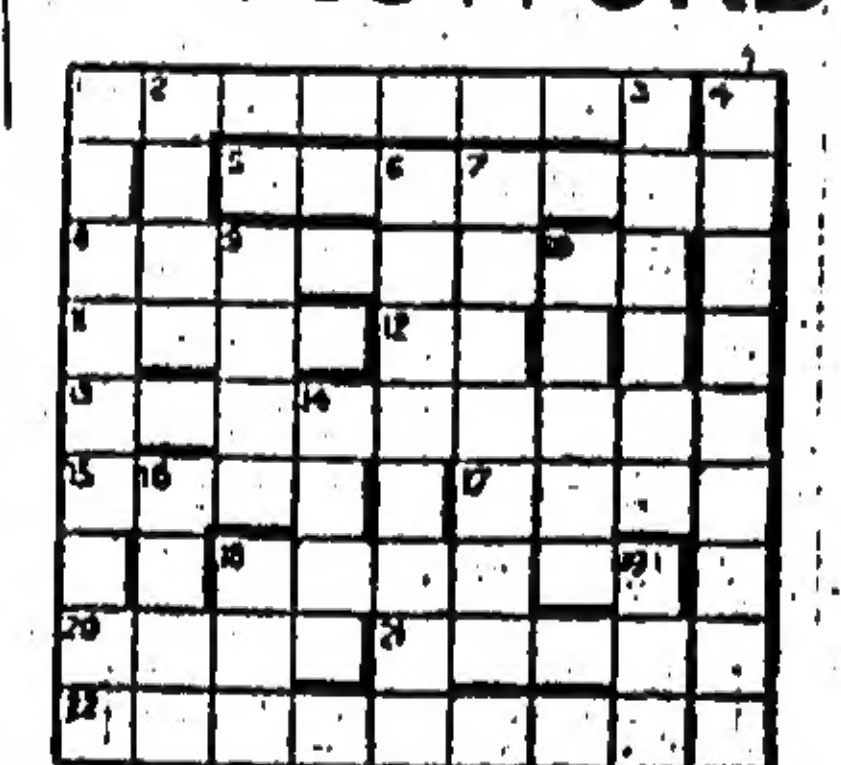
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♦ A 3	♦ J 9 8 4 2	♦ A 10 6 5 3	♦ 10 6 4
♥ 7 4 3 2	♥ 10 9	♥ 10 9	♥ 10 6 4
♦ A 8 5 3	♦ 10 9 7 5	♦ 10 9 7 5	♦ 10 6 4
♠ 7 2	♠ 10 9 8 5 3	♠ 10 9 8 5 3	♠ 10 6 4

The bidding:
West 1, North 2, East 3, South 4.

West opened the heart king. Declarer won, drew three rounds of trumps, and then went after the diamond suit. He cashed the ace and king, then ruffed a low diamond, but, to his severe disappointment, this failed to drive out the adverse stopper—West still had the suit guarded. Now, rather aimlessly, South ran off the rest of his trumps. If he had stayed reasonably alert he would have noticed that his left hand adversary was doing a bit of squirming over the large number of discards he had to make, but, apparently blind to this, South made his own discards from dummy with a lamentable lack of discrimination, and finally, said dolefully, "Well, I guess I'm down one." To implement his statement, he led a spade to the ace and then surrendered. It is strange but true that it was virtually impossible to lose this slam contract. Even though West discarded on the long line of clubs to the very best advantage, he still could not avoid being squeezed to a pulp. Let's follow the play. After ruffing the third diamond, declarer cashes his remaining trumps. His own hand is being reduced to the queen-seven of spades and the five of hearts. West, with one discard still to make, has the king-ten of spades, the queen of diamonds and the ace of hearts. He can trust his partner for the trump ten and let go the heart queen, but observe that even this bold and excellent play does not save him, for dummy now comes down to the ace-three of spades and one diamond. Declarer leads the heart five—and West must give up his diamond or blank the spade king. Dummy simply "coppers" West's discard.

CROSSWORD



1. Not the sort found in the sea, but these are found in a rock.
2. Unpleasant for a change. (7)
3. Opposed to eternal. (6)
4. How to begin creeping. (4)
5. Not what you expect from a real man. (2)
6. If I see weed (anagram). (5, 4)
7. Does he make a meal or the rock make him? (12, 6)
8. Eternity. (4)
9. Do what he does in the desert. (6)
10. Pile as a chicken no doubt. (10)
11. Naturally makes a grand leap. (9)
12. Down
1. It is here that the river sets its sister. (6)
2. Give the one to employ a ruse. (4)
3. Lean in a salty fashion. (8)
4. Frowning. (9)
5. Not a snare for a small horse, just a conveyance. (4, 5)
6. Builders' implements. (7)
7. A lame sort of repeat. (4)
8. Having life in a life sort of way. (5)
9. Like the flag family, but it's not cheap. (4)
10. A turn in a tavern. (4)
11. Vegetable in appearance. (10)
12. Do this to become senior. (8)

NANCY Unneeded Information



When You Feel Tired and Restless take
Elliott's Nerve and Brain Tonic
On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Diana Lynn for Lois Leeds.

Here are Teen Age questions and answers.

TEEN TOPICS

Here are some "leading" questions from Teen Age correspondents. And here are my answers.

Question—Does a fifteen-year-old girl need a party dress for winter?

Answer—Yes, if her budget will allow it. A corduroy suit, with a dressy blouse, is nice because it can do double duty.

Question—Is a permanent necessary to have a glamorous hairdo?

Answer—No. If your hair is kept clean and well brushed, a Glamour Bob or a Glamorous Hairdo can be done by you. But if your hair is "bunk", a permanent will certainly help.

Question—If a Teen Age girl works after school, should she do housework on Saturdays?

Answer—Not knowing all the circumstances, I cannot say definitely. But I should say that Saturdays should be for rest and fun.

Question—Is a sweater and skirt outfit correct for a seventeen-year-old girl who works in an office?

Answer—Yes, if her figure is the kind that is not too emphasized by a sweater.

Minute Makeups
by GABRIELLE



Golden glints in your hair and rhinestones glittering on your shoulders—that's your Shine On holiday fashion! All of this Glitter makes it necessary to inspect your makeup kit. Choose some new shades to add a backdrop for your Shine!

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"I used to think he was being 'went' until I found out that he just naturally looks dopey!"

Philippines To Call Up 15,000 Youths for Army

The resumption of the prewar MacArthur Plan for training a citizen army of 500,000 for the Philippines will be marked by the calling up of 15,000 young men by July. Maj Gen Rafael Jalandoni, Philippine Army chief of staff, said recently:

The entire training period has been extended from six months to one year, Jalandoni said.

"We will have no half-baked personnel in the organization when they are called to the test," he explained.

The construction of barracks at Camp Ord, in Tarlac, a few miles north-east of the United States Army Philippine Scouts' training ground at Camp O'Donnell, is already under way.

Jalandoni said the postwar Philippine Army will be trained in large regional centres like Camp Ord rather than in provisional centres before the war to ensure more uniform and effective instruction.

One Division a Year

The outbreak of the Pacific War found the citizen army plan as envisioned by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who had been the military adviser to the Philippine Commonwealth, only about one-fifth of the way toward its goal due to the lack of time and money.

Hastily formed reservists did valiant work in Bataan, but their lack of training was woefully evident in the opinion of army observers.

The Philippines are now spending 35 percent of the budget on the national defence plan to train one division a year.

HOW RENT TRIBUNALS OPERATE

English newspapers during the past six months have frequently contained items like this:

"Three guineas a week WAS the rent for one small back room and an attached kitchenette, the use of a bathroom, occupied by Mr. X.Y.Z. in 1938. The rent NOW is 10s. 6d. The reduction came when Mr. X.Y.Z. appealed to the Rent Tribunal at the Town Hall. Announcing the decision, the chairman, who with all members of the tribunal had inspected the house, said: 'The whole house, of which this accommodation forms a part, has a rateable value of only £36, but by the division of rooms it was converted into a house of 16 rooms, bathroom and lavatory. Cheap furniture has been provided by the landlord and the services which he provided consist of cleaning the parts of the house used in common with other tenants.' We have not encountered anything approaching the circumstances brought to light by this hearing. Our decision shows the rent to be excessive. It is extortionate, and tenants, by referring to tribunals any individual exploitation of the present scarcity of living accommodation, are not only securing justice for themselves but rendering a service to the community."

Ministry Stepped In

When, at the end of the war, survivors began to return home in their thousands, increasing still more the housing problem, many landlords and landladies rubbed their hands in glee and charged heavy, often extortionate rents. Under the then existing laws they got away with it. But halfway through 1946, the Ministry of Health stepped in with an answer.

It empowered local authorities to negotiate for the setting up of rent tribunals with the power not only to reduce rents, but to make landlords and landladies keep their tenants at least three months. The result is that tribunals have sprung up in many parts of England and Wales to ensure justice to all parties.

These rent tribunals are not overburdened with legal procedure. Often they sit in small, chilly rooms with the tenant and landlord or landlady facing each other in front of the tribunal members and a few newspaper reporters. The tribunal comprises three members, the chairman often being a barrister, and an increasing number of women are taking part.

Houses Inspected

Both sides are allowed to say whatever they wish provided it is relevant, and sometimes a decision takes days to consider, though this is far from being the case always. Before or after a hearing, tribunal members go along to the tenants' premises and inspect them thoroughly, evaluating everything. Sometimes neither side turns up at a hearing because cases can be put in writing. It is also possible to request a private hearing, where circumstances permit.

Operated under Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, which is operative until December 31, 1947, tribunals do not allow of the right of appeal, though another hearing is allowed when a landlord or landlady has altered services. Defence of a tribunal decision makes the offender liable to anything up to six months' imprisonment and/or £100 fine. The premises covered are those let at a rent which includes payment for use of furniture or for services, and of unfurnished premises let with use of services.

Reductions in rental are not automatically resultant from these hearings. There have even been instances in which the tribunals have authorized an increase in rent, though these are, of course, rare. Up to January 31, 6201 cases were referred to the 72 rent tribunals then operating. Rent reductions were made in 2771 out of 3522 cases so far decided, which is slightly less than 79 percent.

LANCASHIRE NEWSLETTER

By a special correspondent

"This gesture has revived the Dunkirk spirit in the workshops" was the comment of a workers' spokesman when Metropolitan-Vickers, Trafford Park, Manchester, announced at the beginning of the fuel crisis that they would guarantee three weeks' wages from February 14 to 13,000 of their workers thrown out of employment by the cuts.

In the reply the workers have pledged themselves to make up for the lost output as soon as the power is restored.

Workers similarly affected at the Lancro chemical works, Eccles, received a full week's wages, and their reply was that when things became normal they would work overtime without payment to an amount equal to the hours they were paid when not working.

As a footnote it may be pointed out that payments such as these are subject to income tax. Unemployment pay is not.

Famine in Hay

A famine in hay constitutes a big threat to the milk supply of the north-western area. Owing to the exceptionally wet weather of last summer the hay crop which it could be gathered was of a poor quality, and a tremendous quantity was so beaten down that it was impossible to save it. Now the heavy nature of the winter has driven the hay which in normal years could have been kept outdoors, thereby exhausting what hay supplies were available nearly three months before the cattle can again be turned out to grass.

Lancashire farmers are pressing their MPs to try and secure railway priority services to move into the county Palatine hay supplies from the more fortunate areas where it was possible to harvest an average crop.

Cotton MUST work double shifts. This was the demand made by Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, to delegates representing 250,000 cotton operatives at a meeting at Bolton. Final acceptance of the Cripps plan has been postponed. Delegates who criticised the double-shift demand on the grounds that it would dislocate home life and upset the children were told by Sir Stafford to approach their local authorities for more day nurseries and other amenities. It would be daytime only, for women workers feared that night work would ruin their home lives. The Cripps plan offers new machinery and grants to mills in return for double-shift working and top-pressure production.

Physiotherapy

Manchester people who need ultra-violet ray, radiant heat, electrical, or massage treatment, but who cannot go to hospital clinics now are able to have the treatment in their own homes. A mobile physiotherapy unit operated by the Manchester and Salford Nursing Institute travels to private houses, and even at homes where electricity is not available it is possible to give electrical treatment. The unit is powered by batteries which are part of the unit's equipment.

The unit is a converted ambulance, and the equipment consists of an ultra-violet ray apparatus, two infrared lamps, a radiant heat bath and mud packs. In charge is Miss E. Rowlandson, a chartered physiotherapist and a qualified nurse and midwife. She not only gives all the treatment but also drives the van. It is planned to eventually have four of its units operating in the Manchester area.

One of the most munificent gifts ever made to Christie's Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester—probably the most famous cancer research centre in the world—has been made by Metropolitan-Vickers. It is a 20,000 volts X-ray apparatus, valued at more than £10,000. The apparatus, known as the Bolatron, is at present being used in the United States for research purposes, and it is claimed its rays are four times as powerful as radium. Because of this it will be necessary to house the apparatus in a building with walls at least six feet thick, and the hospital is to apply for a priority permit to permit of its erection. It is hoped to have the apparatus installed and in operation on urgent cancer cases by the end of the year.

Proposed by-laws by Manchester Corporation prohibiting the parking of motor vehicles from dawn till dusk in certain streets has had a mixed reception from traders. While some denounce the proposals as likely to cause a loss of trade, others take the view that congestion in the city streets is a matter which affects everyone and would lead to the loss of trade quite as much as parking restrictions. The Manchester Chamber of Trade is taking the views of its members on the question.



WIDESPREAD LOOTING OF COAL TRAINS

Looting coal trains has become an obsession among the half-frozen people of Germany. It is estimated that 30,000 tons of coal have been stolen in Hamburg by Germans swarming over the coal trains arriving from the Ruhr.

In three months to the end of February, 21,980 persons were arrested in the Hamburg coal yards.

Their numbers include a clerk, a man, who was arrested twice for stealing coal. He conceded it was wrong to steal but said: "I believe it is also wrong for the little children of my parish to go cold, if I can help to keep them warm."

Coal-pilfering is no longer considered a criminal offence in Germany, where 300 persons were officially reported to have been frozen to death this winter.

One British official said: "The Germans steal in the same way as they would steal bread if they had no food."

Thieves reached such proportions that 1,500 policemen in Hamburg have been assigned to protect coal shipments. Thefts previously ran as high as 500 tons daily. Subsequently, the figure fell to 100 tons.

A high British official said: "One can understand why these people steal coal. But it is our duty to prevent thefts so essential industries—electricity, gas and food factories—can operate."

The temperature in his room was below freezing-point. Both he and the stenographer bundled themselves in overcoats and scarves, and the girl typed with gloved hands.

The gaols are not large enough to hold all those arrested. Most of the arrested are discharged after paying small fines. Those suspected of stealing for the black market are held.—Associated Press.

SPUN GLASS TO INSULATE CARS

A wartime development in aircraft construction is now being applied to the manufacture of 1947 motor cars.

At the suggestion of a former aircraft sound engineer, and after exhaustive tests, an American automobile plant chose spun glass "sound blankets" to insulate its cars. The sound-proofing material is composed of spun glass and a fibre stock woven into blankets one-half inch thick. It is used to line the interior surfaces of the passenger compartment to absorb road rumbles and hums.

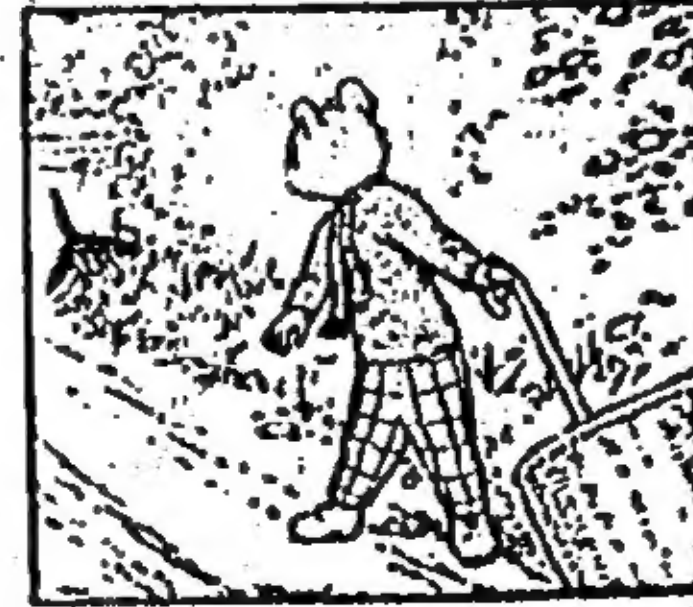
It is also applied to the tender ventilation ducts, which take the fresh air into the passenger compartments from the front grille.—United Press.

BRITISH WALKER CUP PROSPECTS

British amateurs who beat their American rivals for the first time in 1938 are hoping to repeat their success in the Walker Cup contest of 1947. This is to be played at St Andrews, the famous Scottish golf course, rather earlier than usual—on May 16 and 17.

A selection committee has already been appointed, and Raymond Oppenheimer, Cyril Tolley and W. E. Torrance have been elected. They and their representatives will come to the country for selection and appoint a captain to help them in their work. The selectors will attend a preliminary trial match either at St Andrews or further south, at which all possible players will be brought together.

Rupert & the New Pat—8



Thinking his friend may be half asleep, Rupert calls to him again, but the black cat only glances at his sideways and still says nothing. "Why, what's come over you?" cries Rupert, "giving yourself ideas and refusing to speak to people! And what are you doing here, anyway? St. Wilfred's isn't your house." The cat yawns and looks more mysterious than ever. Then, without a word, he drops lightly from the gable end and walks off round a corner, leaving Rupert bewildered.

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CENTRAL THEATRE

LAST 5 SHOWS TO-DAY
At 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

INDIANS ARE ON THE WARPATH!

And Hopalong Cassidy's marked for death!



Also Stan LAUREL • Oliver HARDY in "MIDNIGHT PATROL" TO-MORROW "RANGE WAR"

WORLD THEATRE

Des Voeux Road, Hongkong. Tel. 21337.

NOW—Complete Installation of New DeVRY Motion Picture Projectors and Sound Equipment.

SHOWING TO-DAY

DAILY AT 12.30, 2.30, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.



SHOWING TO-DAY ALHAMBRA THEATRE At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.



SHOWING TO-DAY MAJESTIC At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

MR. & MRS. MINIVER TOGETHER AGAIN In A New Screen Triumph!



GIANT DNIPIER GENERATOR

Schenectady, Mar. 16. General Electric has announced that the first of three giant American-made electric generators installed in Soviet Russia's great Dnieper Dam has been run successfully at full speed. The announcement said the test marked the first power operation of the dam since 1941, when the Red Army dynamited the original generators to deny their use to the Germans. The two additional generators soon will be in operation. — Associated Press.

United Ireland Demand

Cardiff, Mar. 16. The mobilisation of Irish opinion in the United States and the British Empire to support the demand for a United Ireland was urged here to-day by Mr. T. L. Mullins, member of the Fianna Fail (Government party in Eire) at a meeting protesting against the partition of Ireland.

Mr. Mullins said that while the Labour Party had declared partition to be a grave injustice against a free and friendly people, time was found to prepare a new bill to enlarge the legislative power of Northern Ireland. A resolution was passed at to-day's meeting, organised by the Irish Anti-Partition League, protesting against "British partition of Ireland" and demanding immediate action by the British Government to end it.

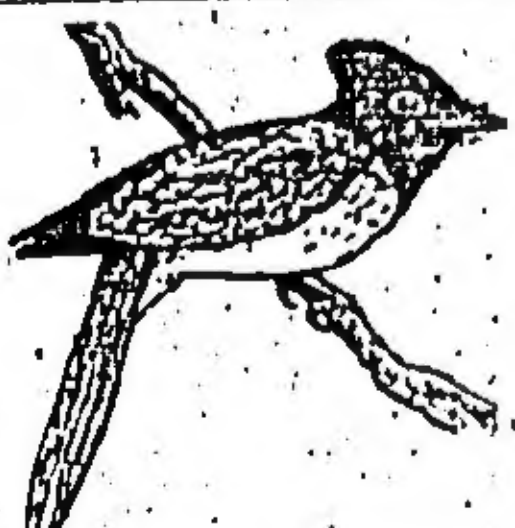
In 1921 a treaty was signed between Great Britain and Eire, by which the latter accepted Dominion status, and in 1925 the border between Eire and Northern Ireland was fixed. The constitution of Eire declares it to be a sovereign, independent democratic state, while executive power in Northern Ireland is vested in the Governor on behalf of the King. — Reuter.

Storm Holds Up Sea Rescue

Honolulu, Mar. 16. A new storm is howling out of the North-west Pacific and threatens to swamp the stern section of the wrecked tanker Fort Dearborn, making it impossible for any immediate rescue of the 22 men aboard. Hopes are dimmed, but the sea and air search continues for the 12 members of the tanker's crew who put out in a lifeboat after the ship broke in two in a storm last Wednesday. The 10 others that were rescued from the bow section are safely en route to San Francisco in the liner General W. H. Gordon. — Associated Press.

More Jews Arrive In Australia

Sydney, Mar. 16. The Dutch ship John de Witt (10,474 tons) has arrived here with 710 Jewish immigrants from Europe. Mr. Arthur Caldwell, the Australian Immigration Minister, stated that when the ship left Marseilles in February the Australian Government had no part in arranging the passage of Jewish displaced persons who came from Poland, Austria and Hungary. He added that an officer on the Australian High Commission staff in London had agreed that travelling conditions in the liner were not suitable for British immigrants. Most of the landing permits had been issued more than a year ago to relatives who guaranteed the immigrants maintenance and accommodation. The Jews aboard the ship include doctors, lawyers, engineers, builders and farmers. — Reuter.



THE BIRDS OF HONGKONG

Field Identification and Field Note Book by G. A. C. Harklotts

NOW ON SALE \$7.50

South China Morning Post and Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

ARGENTINE EMPLOYS TOP NAZI SCIENTISTS

Paraguay Rebellion Spreads

Buenos Aires, Mar. 16. The Paraguay rebel broadcasting station at Concepcion announced that a Chaco division, headed by Colonel Gugiarini, "decided to join the rebel forces and take the offensive against Morinigo's forces," early to-day. The same broadcast claimed that the rebels have numerical superiority in forces of three to one. The Paraguayan government broadcast, station at Asuncion, the capital, announced that the Liberal Party has joined the revolution. Asuncion dispatches announced that President Morinigo had ordered the Loyal Army to start a large-scale operation against the Concepcion rebels and is sending more troops to the fighting front. — Reuter.

United Action By Democracies Urged By Koo

Charlottesville, Virginia, Mar. 16. Dr. V. K. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador to the United States, said in an address at the University of Virginia to-day there can be no doubt democracy will triumph over other ideologies. "Democracy is indivisible," he said, "and prosperity and freedom are likewise."

He said if the world powers cannot co-operate, "the international outlook cannot be anything but one of gloom and grim." He said the world situation is "complicated by the preponderance of rival ideologies, and the cause of co-operation is rendered difficult by different nations pursuing different modes of approach to a given question."

Rival Ideologies

Dr. Koo said this only emphasises the need of understanding that leads to co-operation, and declared that it should be added, however, that the presence of highly-organised and co-ordinated rival ideologies, the forces of democracy must be united. Their unity of action is necessary. No union is stronger than the union of democracy for the strength of democracy lies in the fact that it is based not upon the will of the stable state but upon the free consent of each individual.

Informed Public Opinion

"When the light of reason and argument of discussion and debate is brought to bear upon the merits of the different ideologies, there can be no doubt that democracy will triumph in the end." Dr. Koo said he does not despair of either possibility or ultimate outcome of co-operation between nations of different ideologies. What is above all desirable and necessary is that there should be informed public opinion on important international issues at stake and fully cognisant of sustained enlightened co-operation. — Associated Press.

Dakota Crash

Searchers Find 16 Bodies

Paris, Mar. 16. Search parties in the Fontaine Garrazine ravine in the French Alps, after recovering 16 bodies near the snow-covered wreckage of the Air France Dakota which crashed two days ago, were impeded in their efforts this evening by a heavy avalanche which swept down the side of the ravine and threatened to engulf both the remnants of the plane and the searchers as well. The searchers heard the rumble of falling snow just in time to escape. They saw the avalanche, three to four metres deep, sweep down on a distance of one mile and a width of 50 metres past the wrecked plane. Three of the bodies found this afternoon were identified as those of Michel Knabie, a Paris industrialist, Roger Durigne, the radio officer and Yves Lucchesi, second pilot. Of the four who were found this morning one was a woman and another believed to be an American passenger. All 16 bodies so far removed from the crash have been moved to a nearby village. — Reuter.

ULTIMATUM TO TRAM STRIKERS

Singapore, Mar. 16. The latest development in the six-week old strike of tramway employees is that the Tramway Company has told strikers who do not return to work by Wednesday that they will be liable to be dismissed. Police protection is offered to all who resume work. The Government has appointed Mr. Justice Topping to act as mediator. — Reuter.

London, Mar. 16. The Sunday newspaper, Reynolds News, in a front page article by a special correspondent to-day, charged that top-ranking Nazi scientists are being taken on by the government of Argentina, where one of the most important deposits of uranium has been found in the province of Mendoza.

The dispatch said there was evidence that the evacuation of former top Nazis to Argentina had been carried out under a secret agreement between Franco Spain and Gen Juan Peron, which virtually amounts to a military pact.

The report said the group of Nazi physicists included Dr. Guido Beck, Czech expert "who assisted Nazi physicists in atomic experiments." The Reynolds News report said a staff of 100 scientists "are now working at a laboratory" Cordoba with unlimited funds drawn from dictator Peron's revenue and classified as secret military expenditure.

The article said the group included "Nazis who fled to Spain and by agreement with Gen Franco became naturalised Spanish citizens." The report further alleged that "Argentine mining expert Gabrera Alvarez and Demetrio Ortega, with six Franco naturalised Germans, are training as uranium prospectors in the Jujuy Province. Villa Dolores in San Luis Province, Chilcote in La Rioja and in Catamarca Province.

Network Of Aerodromes

Reynolds News said uranium deposits were found in Spain in 1945, "but although Franco sent an agent, Gumerindo Garcia, to the United States to get special mining machinery he failed to secure any." The report said therefore "it is possible he (Franco) now has arranged for getting this plant through the Argentine Government which recently granted him large credit."

The report also said a "great network of aerodromes" was being hastily constructed throughout Spain.

"on a scale all out of proportion to civil requirements," especially near Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia, Bilbao and Santander. The dispatch added it was reported the work was supervised by "hush-hush United States technicians." — United Press.

BYRD'S MEN IN SYDNEY FOR VISIT

Sydney, Mar. 17. United States naval officers from Admiral Richard Byrd's Antarctic expedition said yesterday they were amazed at the way in which Sydney girls have been "throwing themselves" at the Americans.

Units of the expedition have arrived in Sydney for a brief visit. Police explained the rush by saying that it had been reported that the men carried as much as about \$1,000 (£250) on them to spend in Sydney in about six days' leave. Police and United States shore patrol are co-operating to protect the men from racketeers. — Associated Press.

Americans Favour Curbing Totalitarian Aggression

Washington, Mar. 16. National consciousness of the world situation has been deeply stirred by the first week's political discussion of Greece and Turkey and since the White House leaders conference, with many indications of United States willingness to accept a more active role in world leadership, but it remains certain that many phases of foreign policy will be subjected to careful Congressional examination.

Developments have reversed the earlier disposition of the general public to shift attention from world to domestic problems.

Diplomatic observers note that the sharpest criticism of President Truman's programme came from the extremes of the Right and Left, and think "isolationist" sentiment so far has failed to attract spectacular leadership or important Congressional strength.

Whereas after World War I, the strong isolationism of the west and northwest quickly influenced foreign policy, the same situation has not occurred, partly because of no great surplus in farm commodities and partly because Far Eastern affairs compel the constant and active interest of all western Congressmen in the evolution of United States world policy.

Diplomatic observers estimate that the United States public predominantly approved Mr. Truman's "stop totalitarian aggression" thesis, but see the emergency of other major issues as Congressional debate develops.

Variety Of Situations

Progress of the discussion also reveals a tendency to distinguish between the Greek-Turkey aid programme as a necessary economic and

FIGHTING SOUTH OF YENAN

Shanghai, Mar. 17. Central News reports that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces are battling Communists 47 miles south of the Red capital, Yen-an. — Associated Press.

DELEGATES TO STUDY REPORT ON GERMANY'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

By SYLVAIN MANGEOT
Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent

Moscow, Mar. 16. Unless any further surprise changes are made in the agenda, the Foreign Ministers will start the second week of the Moscow Conference with a study of the Control Council's report on economic principles.

It is generally recognised here that this section of the report is the most important, as well as the bulkiest chapter in the Control Council's analysis of the extent to which the Potsdam Agreement has or has not been fulfilled. The subject is sub-divided into 11 parts as follows: 1. The level of

industry. 2. Food and rationing. 3. Agriculture. 4. Decartellisation. 5. Imports and Exports. 6. Domestic Trade. 7. Economic unity. 8. Transport. 9. Finance, banking and financial reform. 10. Transfer of German and Allied property. 11. The key sub-division is undoubtedly the eighth. If the Ministers can agree on the question of economic unity then, the whole prospects of joint four-party action in Germany become immeasurably simplified.

The British Foreign Minister, Mr. Ernest Bevin, has made it abundantly clear that the realisation of the Potsdam decision to treat Germany as a

POCKET CARTOON



NIGHT ATTACK BY GREEK GUERRILLAS

Athens, Mar. 16. Greek guerrilla forces, two battalions strong, launched a midnight attack against the military posts in six villages in the region of Karditza province of Thessaly, Central Greece, the Greek News Agency reported to-night.

At midnight last night guerrillas, using mortars, grenades and machine guns, assaulted a defence post which had been strengthened by detachments sent from Karditza. The fighting went on for several hours until all attacks had been beaten off.

One gendarme was killed and another wounded. Guerrilla losses were reported by the Agency to be heavy. — Reuter.

UNO COMMISSION

Athens, Mar. 16. The United Nations Commission of Inquiry members looking into Greek allegations of interference across her frontier, headed by Mr. J. L. Hood, of Australia, has reached Thessalonica, 50 kilometres from the Albanian frontier, after having been into Albania, the Greek News Agency reported to-day.

Members of the Commission were to-day examining witnesses on statements that guerrilla elements stayed in Albania for months. — Reuter.

British Arms Used

Cherbourg, Switzerland, Mar. 16. Weapons supplied by the British to Greek resistance forces during the war have been used to arm leftist guerrilla bands in the current civil strife in Greece, the Rev. Edward Every, the World Council of Churches representative in Greece, told the second annual conference of the Church Council's Reconstruction Department to-day. Rev. Every, a former Royal Air Force chaplain, said only a small proportion of the arms dropped by the RAF were turned in, and added some weapons being used were said to be coming in from across the borders. — Reuter.

Saw Russian Manoeuvres

Berlin, Mar. 16. Niels Norlund, 26-year-old correspondent of the Copenhagen newspaper, Berlingske Tidende, reported to-day that British military police fired three shots yesterday at Russian officers who attempted to prevent him from returning to Berlin after holding him captive for 20 hours in the Russian occupation zone. Norlund, released after his two-day ordeal, said he was held by the Russians after inadvertently witnessing "huge" Soviet manoeuvres in the Russian zone 60 miles out of Berlin. — United Press.

PASSENGER JET PLANE

San Diego, Cal., Mar. 17. A commercial air transport using jet propellers—for added power from the exhausts of its two 2,400-horsepower convention type engines—made an initial flight yesterday. The 40-passenger transport, capable of cruising at 300 miles an hour also is the first peacetime twin engine commercial transport with pressurised compartments for passengers and crew. This will permit high altitude flying above weather conditions which, hitherto, have been a major factor in the speed of the plane. — Associated Press.

Clarification Of Russian Views On Alaska Sought

Washington, Mar. 16. Representative Gearhardt, Republican of California, said to-day that Russia "is looking at Alaska with covetous eyes."

He declared the Soviets contend that Alaska's purchase by the United States from the Czarist Government in 1867 was illegal, and demanded that the State Department say whether Moscow is seeking the return of the rich and strategic territory. Gearhardt told a reporter he will raise the question on the house floor to-morrow in connection with President Harry Truman's programme to curb Communist expansion by sending money, materials and experts to Greece and Turkey. His statement topped these developments:

1. Paul Porter, chief of the American Economic Mission to Greece, left Athens to-day to return and report. His report on the Greek economic difficulties and how to meet them was not due until April, but apparently is being speeded up in view of the pending aid programme.

2. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation recommended a US\$100,000,000 loan for 1947-1948 for the International Bank. — Associated Press.

SUSPECTED ARSON

Frankfurt, Mar. 16. Military Government officers reported that a fire, believed to have been set by arsonists, early to-day damaged a building in Schleierbach, 50 miles north-east of Berlin, but no military and counter-intelligence headquarters and German demilitarisation headquarters. "We believe the fire was set by persons attempting to destroy demilitarisation and Military Government investigation records," a Military Government official stated.

Officers said the building janitor was detained briefly, but was released after questioning. They said they found an empty gasoline can and, from all appearances, a large section of the top floor of the three-story building had been saturated before it was ignited. Damage was mainly to the top floor, where county records of the demilitarisation court and records of Military Government investigations were kept, but officers said all records were intact. — United Press.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below.

Monday, March 17.
Airmails: Hongkong, Calcutta, Delhi, Johannesburg, Cairo, 2.30 p.m.
Seamails: USA, Central and South America, Canada (via San Francisco) 3 p.m.
Maine, Tahiti, Shanghai, Kanton, 4 p.m.
Train: Canton, 4 p.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW Hongkong broadcasting on a frequency of 645 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2 p.m., and 6.30 to 11 p.m., and also on 665 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9 to 11 p.m.
6.30 Irish Songs and Music; 7. London Relay: World News; 7.10 London Relay: Home News from Britain; 7.15 Donald Peers: Croquet of Song; 7.25 Studio: "Like What I Like—Presented by Margaret Brown; 8. Gerry Moore at the Piano; 8.15 London Relay: News; 8.20 Studio: "Have You Heard?" "Gulliver's Travels" by Jonathan Swift; 8.30 "Music Time"; 9. London Relay: News; 9.10 Studio: "Felicity Vane"—A play specially written for Broadcasting by Eunice Duckley. Presented by the Hong Kong Service Club. Produced by Desmond Scott; 9.30 Violin Interlude; 9.35 London Transmission Service: "Ambrose and Ann"—Ann Shelton with Ambrose and His Orchestra; 10.05 "Something for Everybody"—Music for All Tastes; 11. Close Down.

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